GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3644
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
LAND EROSION
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are not rehabilitated due to land erosion along the Ganga river in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the roads are also affected due to erosion;

(c) if so, whether a sum of Rs. 39.50 crore was sanctioned/released to the State Government to tackle this problem; and

(d) if so, the details of funds utilized by the State Government for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) Land erosion being a State subject, anti-erosion schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The Central Government renders assistance that is technical, catalytical and supportive in nature.

Anti erosion works in the critical reaches, which inter-alia are inhabited by people are carried out to protect land erosion.

(b) The possibility of roads getting affected due to land erosion caused by river Ganga cannot be ruled out. As per the information available, out of the 8 schemes taken up by the State Government under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States" a stretch of about 400 meters of Ganga Darjeeling road in respect of one of the schemes is reported to be affected due to erosion.

(c) Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 39.50 crore towards central share has been earmarked for the State of Bihar to take up anti erosion works in the critical reaches under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States", against which an amount of Rs. 34.91 crore has so far been released to the Government of Bihar.

(d) Against the central share of Rs. 34.91 crore released to the Government of Bihar; the State Government has submitted utilization certificates amounting to Rs. 32.30 crore which also includes 25% share of the State Government, as well.